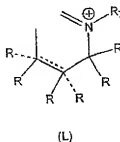
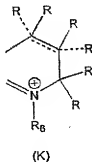
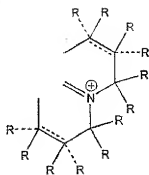


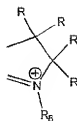
**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES  
MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS**

- 1-3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously presented) The carboxamide-substituted dye as claimed in claim 34, in which Cyc1 is substituted or unsubstituted phenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl or cyclohexyl.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously presented) The carboxamide-substituted dye as claimed in claim 34 in which  $R_1$  is bridged with  $R_8$  or  $R_3$  is bridged with  $R_7$  or  $R_1$  is bridged with  $R_8$  and  $R_3$  is bridged with  $R_7$  forming a ring system
7. (Previously presented) The carboxamide-substituted dye as claimed in claim 6, in which the ring system comprises 5- or 6-membered rings.
8. (Previously presented) The carboxamide-substituted dye as claimed in claim 7, in which a ring system of the structure (K), (L), (M), (N) or (O) is formed:

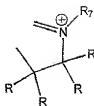




(M)



(N)



(O)

in which R in each case independently is defined as  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and the dashed lines are optionally double bonds in the presence of which the moieties bound via a dashed line are absent.

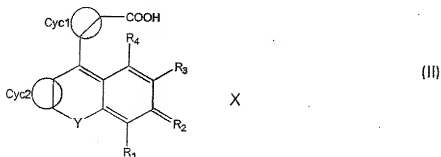
9-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously presented) The carboxamide-substituted dye as claimed in claim 8, in which Cyc1 is optionally substituted phenyl, Cyc2 has the structure (E) and Y = oxygen and  $R_7$  and  $R_3$  form a ring system (K).

16-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously presented) A process for preparing carboxamide-substituted dyes of the formula (I) as claimed in claim 34, comprising the following steps:

(a) converting the carboxyl group of a dye of the formula (II)

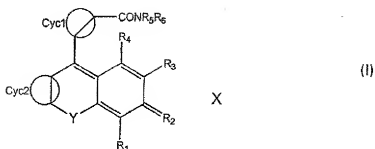


in which the moieties are defined as indicated in claim 34, into an activated form;

- (b) reacting the activated dye obtained in step (a) with a secondary amine  $\text{HNR}_5\text{R}_6$ ; and
- (c) optionally isolating the carboxamide-substituted dye of the formula (I) obtained in step (b).
22. (Original) The process as claimed in claim 21, in which step (a) is carried out at temperatures of from room temperature to  $60^\circ\text{C}$ .
23. (Previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 21, in which an aprotic solvent is used in step (b).
24. (Previously presented) The process as claimed in claim 21 in which N-hydroxysuccinimide, N-hydroxyphthalimide, N-hydroxynaphthalimide, O-(N-succinimidyl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate (TSTU) are used for activation.

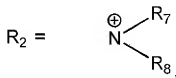
25-33 (Cancelled);

34. (Currently amended) A carboxamide-substituted dye of the formula (I)



in which

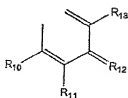
Y = oxygen, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> are independently hydrogen, halogen, -O<sup>⊖</sup>, a hydroxyl group, thiol group, amino group, ammonium group, sulfo group, phospho group, nitro group, carbonyl group, carboxyl group, a carboxylic acid derivative, a nitrile group, isonitrile group, cyanate group, isocyanate group, thiocyanate group, isothiocyanate group or a straight-chain, branched or cyclic saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having up to 40 carbon atoms;



in which

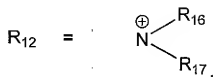
R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>, independently are hydrogen or a straight-chain, branched or cyclic saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having up to 40 carbon atoms; or

R<sub>1</sub> together with R<sub>2</sub> is



in which

$R_{10}$ ,  $R_{11}$ ,  $R_{13}$  are as defined for  $R_1$ ,  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$ ;



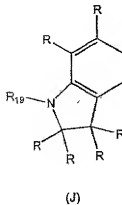
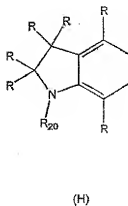
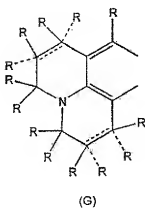
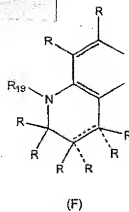
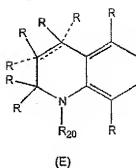
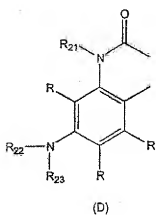
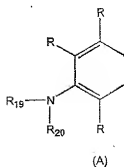
in which

$R_{16}$ ,  $R_{17}$  are as defined for  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$ ,

$R_5$ ,  $R_6$ , independently are a straight-chain, branched or cyclic saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having up to 40 carbon atoms, wherein at least one of  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  comprises a carboxy group;

Cyc1 is an organic moiety which comprises a ring system selected from aromatic, heteroaromatic, quinoidal and cycloaliphatic rings; wherein Cyc1 is substituted with  $-\text{CONR}_5\text{R}_6$  at the ortho-position of the ring attached to a backbone of formula (I) ;

Cyc2 is an organic moiety which comprises a ring system selected from aromatic, heteroaromatic, quinoidal and cycloaliphatic rings; wherein Cyc2 has a structure selected from (A), (D), (E), (F), (G), (H) or (J),

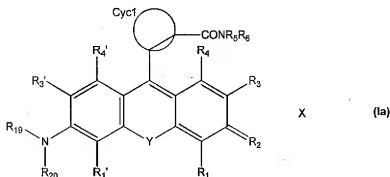


in which R in each case independently is defined as R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>19</sub>, R<sub>20</sub> and R<sub>22</sub>, R<sub>23</sub> are independently defined as R<sub>7</sub>, R<sub>8</sub>; and R<sub>21</sub> is defined as R<sub>7</sub>,

and the dashed lines are optionally double bonds in the presence of which the moieties bound via a dashed line are absent, each of said moieties in the dye of the formula (I) being able to form a ring

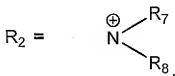
system with one or more neighboring moieties;  
 and X being one or more mono- or multivalent anions, when required for  
 balancing the charge; and wherein at least one of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub>, R<sub>10</sub>, R<sub>11</sub>, R<sub>13</sub>  
 and R is a sulfo group.

35. (Previously presented) A carboxamide-substituted dye of the formula (Ia)



in which

Y = oxygen, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>1'</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>3'</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>4'</sub> are independently hydrogen, halogen, -O<sup>⊖</sup>, a hydroxyl group, thiol group, amino group, ammonium group, sulfo group, phospho group, nitro group, carbonyl group, carboxyl group, a carboxylic acid derivative, a nitrile group, isonitrile group, cyanate group, isocyanate group, thiocyanate group, isothiocyanate group or a straight-chain, branched or cyclic saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having up to 40 carbon atoms; wherein at least one of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>1'</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>3'</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>4'</sub> is a sulfo group



$R_5$ ,  $R_6$ , independently are a straight-chain, branched or cyclic saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having up to 40 carbon atoms; wherein at least one of  $R_5$  and  $R_6$  comprises a carboxy group,

$R_7$ ,  $R_8$ ,  $R_{19[J]}$  and  $R_{20}$  independently are hydrogen or a straight-chain, branched or cyclic saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having up to 40 carbon atoms,

Cyc1 is an organic moiety which comprises a ring system selected from aromatic, heteroaromatic, quinoidal and cycloaliphatic rings; wherein Cyc1 is substituted with  $-\text{CONR}_5\text{R}_6$  at the ortho-position of the ring attached to a backbone of formula (Ia) ;

36. (Previously presented) The carboxamide-substituted dye of the formula (I) of claim 34, wherein  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$  independently are straight-chained saturated hydrocarbon groups.
37. (Previously presented) The carboxamide-substituted dye of the formula (Ia) of claim 35, wherein  $R_{1z}$ ,  $R_{1'}$  independently are sulfo groups.
38. (New) The carboxamide-substituted dye of the formula (I) of claim 34, wherein  $R_7$ ,  $R_8$ , independently are hydrogen or a straight-chain, branched or cyclic saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon group having up to 40 carbon atoms, which may optionally be substituted.